

TYPHOON TASHA (16W)

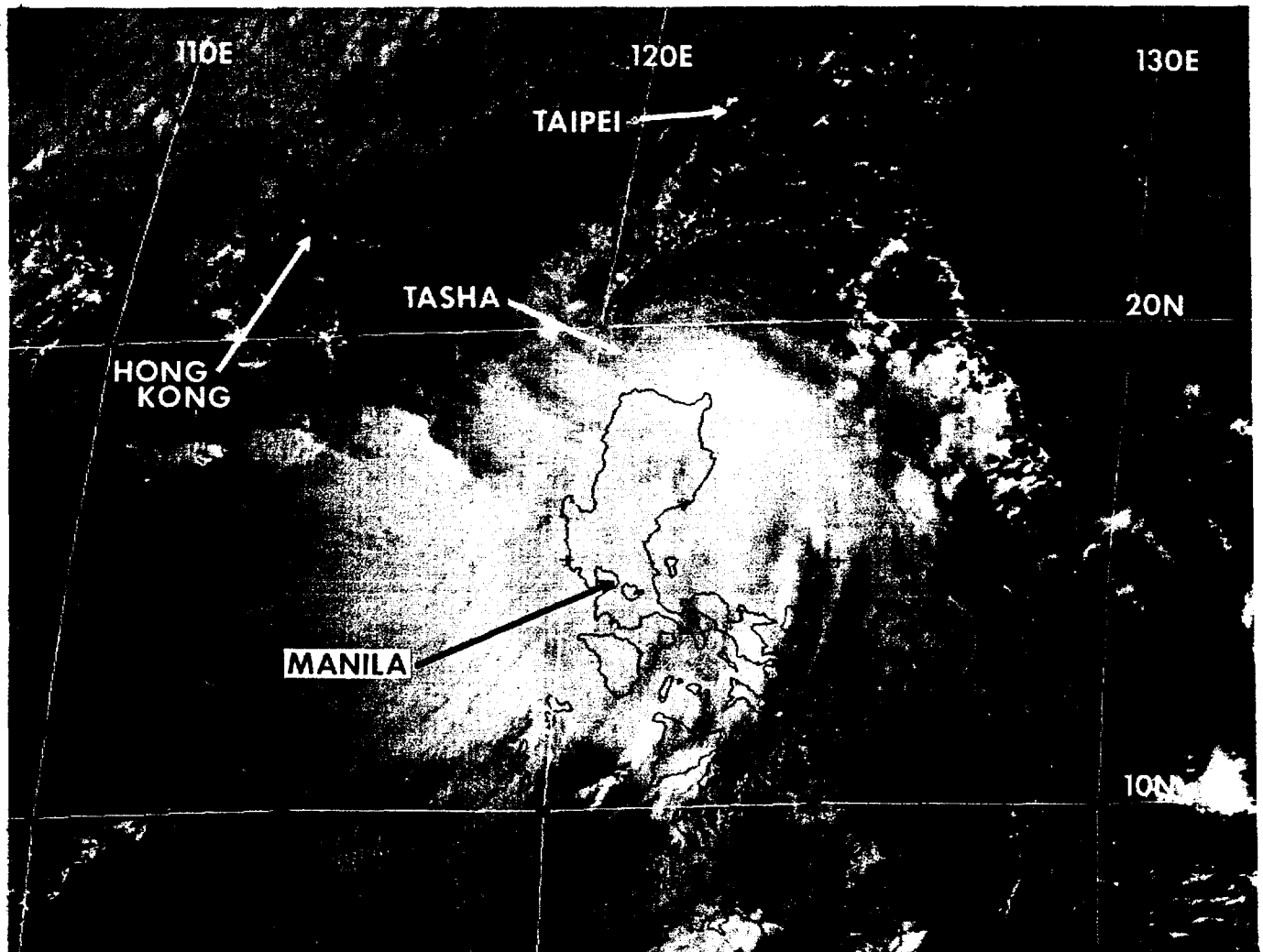


Figure 3-16-1 As Tasha passes north of Manila, bands of deep convection cover the island of Luzon (172331Z August visual GMS imagery.)

I. HIGHLIGHTS

Forming within the monsoon trough near Chuuk in the central Caroline Islands, Tasha was the fourth significant tropical cyclone of August. Tasha intensified slowly, but steadily, as it tracked north-westward across the Philippine Sea and into the South China Sea where it briefly threatened Hong Kong.

II. CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

August

121800Z - The disturbance was first mentioned in the Significant Tropical Weather Advisory as an area of persistent convection embedded within the monsoon trough.

130800Z - The first Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert (TCFA) was issued based on an increase in convection.

140800Z - While the disturbance did not intensify significantly during the first TCFA, conditions remained favorable for development, and a second TCFA was issued.

150000Z - The first warning was issued based on gradient-level winds of 31 kt (16 m/sec) at Koror (WMO 91408).

161200Z - Based upon increased convective curvature and a satellite intensity estimate of 35 kt (18 m/sec), Tasha was upgraded to a tropical storm.

190600Z - Following a satellite intensity estimate of 65 kt (33 m/sec) which also indicated that upper-level shear had abated, Tasha was upgraded to a typhoon.

220000Z - The final warning was issued as the tropical cyclone dissipating over land in southern China.

III. IMPACT

Flooding from heavy rains associated with Tasha (Figure 3-16-1) as it passed north of Luzon, forced 21,000 people to evacuate homes in low-lying areas in Manila.